

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SEOUL 08074 172341Z

70

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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R 160841Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3389
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

S E C R E T SEOUL 8074

EXDIS

TOKYO FOR SCIENCE COUNSELOR BLOOM AND ERDA REP HENoch

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MNUC, KS
SUBJECT: NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS

1. DURING PRESIDENTIAL RECEPTION FOR DIPLOMATIC CORPS
OCTOBER 15, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER NAM TOK-U AND PRESIDENTIAL
CHIEF SECRETARY KIM CHONG-YOM TOGETHER RAISED WITH ME
ROK NUCLEAR REPROCESSING ISSUE, TESTING WHETHER THERE
ANY FLEXIBILITY IN US POSITION. BOTH INSISTED THAT ROKG
POSITION FIRM DESPITE APPROACHES HERE AND IN WASHINGTON
BY DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL. NAM URGED THAT WE CONVINCE
CONGRESS THAT WITH ADEQUATE SAFEGUARDS, NUCLEAR REPROCESSING
FACILITY WOULD NOT BE UNDER ROK EXCLUSIVE CONTROL. HE
ALSO SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF JOINT US-ROKG OPERATION OF
REPROCESSING FACILITY. I REVIEWED FOR NAM AGAIN
THE POLITICAL RISKS OF PURSUING REPROCESSING CONTRACT, AS
WELL AS TECHNICAL OBJECTIONS TO IT. NAM, FIRST TIME WITH
SUPPORT OF KIM, SAID THAT US TECHNICIANS HAD APPROVED
ROKG RESEARCH FACILITY FOR REPROCESSING, ACCORDING TO
ROKG SCIENTIFIC AUTHORITIES CONCERNED. I DENIED THIS
VEHEMENTLY AND PRESSED HARD AGAIN FOR ROKG RECONSIDERATION.

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2. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION, FRENCH AMBASSADOR INFORMED

ME THAT DELEGATION FROM FRENCH NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY
FRAMATOME VISITING KOREA THIS WEEK TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE
SALE OF FRENCH NUCLEAR REACTORS. LANDY INDICATED FRENCH
MAY BE MORE INCLINED SELL REACTOR AND ASKED WHETHER WE COULD
INHIBIT SALE THROUGH WESTINGHOUSE WHICH HAS MAJOR INTEREST
IN FRAMATOME.

3. CANADIAN AMBASSADOR ALSO INFORMED ME THAT
BILATERAL SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT IN FINAL PHASES OF NEGOTIATIONS
WITH ONLY FEW SMALL WORDS STILL NOT AGREED TO. LANGUAGE
UNDER DISCUSSION RELATES TO CANADIAN CONTROL OF SPENT FUEL
WHICH ROKG ACCEPTS IN PRINCIPLE.

SNEIDER

NOTE BY OCT: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER S/S-O: E. BOSWELL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Concepts: NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES, NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS
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Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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